

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel withdrawn claims 25-28 without prejudice, amend claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8 and 29, and add new claim 31 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A prefabricated composite panel comprising:
a frame including a plurality of spaced apart frame members having a web and
at least ~~one~~ a first flange comprising a substantially planar portion projecting orthogonally
from one end of said web;

a reinforcing layer fastened to said first flange of at least one of said frame
members; and

a concrete slab having a density of 400 to 1760 kg/m³ (25 to 110 pcf), wherein
said concrete slab has a front face and a rear face,

wherein said reinforcing layer is embedded in said slab, and

wherein the entire substantially planar said first flange portion of said at least
one of said frame members is ~~are~~ embedded in said slab, and

wherein said web ~~another portion~~ of said at least one of said frame members
protrudes from said rear face of said slab.

2. (Original) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 wherein the
concrete slab is aerated concrete.

3. (Currently Amended) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 wherein said elongated frame members are C-channel members comprising a ~~web~~ ~~connected to said at least one flange and a second flange connected to~~ projecting from the web spaced from said ~~one~~ first flange.

4. (Currently Amended) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 wherein said ~~at least one~~ first flange includes at least one tab and tab-opening, said concrete slab extending through said tab-opening.

5. (Original) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 wherein the reinforcing layer includes a slit and expanded metal lath.

6. (Currently Amended) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 further comprising at least one opening in the panel which is at least partially bounded by said frame members.

7. (Currently Amended) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 further comprising at least one outer member on an outer edge of said panel, said outer member being L-shaped and including one leg juxtaposed to said web and another leg on the

front face of said slab substantially parallel to said first flange of an adjacent one of said frame members, said one leg removably attached to said web. ~~frame and bounding at least one edge of the panel.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 1 further comprising at least one outer member on an outer edge of said panel, said outer member being L-shaped and including one leg juxtaposed to said web and another leg on the front face of said slab substantially parallel to said first flange of an adjacent one of said frame members, said one leg permanently attached to said web. ~~frame and bounding at least one edge of the panel.~~

9 – 24. (Cancelled)

25-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A prefabricated composite panel comprising:

a frame ~~including~~ comprising a plurality of spaced apart frame members having a web, a first flange comprising a substantially planar flange portion that projects

orthogonally from one end of said web and a second flange projecting from the other end of said web ~~two spaced apart flanges and a web therebetween~~ defining a C-channel;

a reinforcing layer fastened to said first flange of at least one of said frame members; and

a concrete slab having a density of 960 to 1200 kg/m³ (60 to 75 pcf), wherein said concrete slab has a front face and a rear face, wherein said reinforcing layer and the entire said first flange of said plurality of frame members ~~at least one of said flanges are~~ fully embedded in said slab, and wherein another ~~at least a portion of said web~~ of said plurality of frame members protrudes from said rear face of said slab.

30. (Previously Presented) The prefabricated composite panel of claim 29 wherein the concrete slab is aerated concrete.

31. (New) A prefabricated composite panel comprising:
a concrete slab having a density of 400 to 1760 kg/m³ (25 to 110 pcf), said slab having a front face and a rear face;

a plurality of spaced apart frame members each having a web and at least a first flange, each said first flange including a planar flange portion extending orthogonally from an end of said web, said first flange including said planar flange portion being entirely embedded within said slab, said web protruding from said rear face of said slab; and

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a reinforcing layer fastened to said first flange of at least one of said frame members and being embedded in said slab.